Disclaimer:

This English translation is produced by machine translation and may contain errors. The JPO, the INPIT, and those who drafted this document in the original language are not responsible for the result of the translation.

Notes:

- 1. Untranslatable words are replaced with astensks (****).
- 2. Texts in the figures are not translated and shown as it is.

Translated: 05:49:35 JST 01/05/2010

Dictionary: Last updated 12/14/2009 / Priority:

FULL CONTENTS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1]On a network characterized by comprising the following where a computer, a Personal Digital Assistant, etc. are connected, an information registrant terminal, A contents registration transmitting means which registers contents into a server system, A system provided with a contents storing means provided in a server system for storing said contents, a contents display means which displays said contents on on-line, and a user terminal for perusing contents displayed.

[information stored in a contents storing means of said server system] A position information setting means which specifies a position on a map when information which accompanies map information and map information, such as real estate information, is included and a user peruses further using map information displayed on a user terminal to the aforementioned on-line search system.

A position information acquiring means which acquires position information on a map specified by a user. A search condition setting means to set up a search condition in a user terminal and to transmit to said server system when said position information and a user retrieve information.

An information retrieval means which retrieves and extracts information stored in an information storing means according to said position information and a search condition, and transmits to a user terminal.

[Claim 2]In the system according to claim 1, [said position information setting means] The on-line search system according to claim 1 which a position which contains a predetermined range on a map by an input means of a mouse etc. is specified, and said position information acquiring means acquires information on a specified range, and is characterized by searching.

[Claim 3]In the invention according to claim 1 or 2, [said search condition setting means] Claim 1 which can be searched by carrying out a condition setup by a method including inputting or choosing landmarks, such as a station, a bus stop, and a building, and an administrative district specified by a user, an address and a business district, a school district, and other conditions, or an on-line search system given in either of 2. [Claim 4]Said system is equipped with a search condition memory measure which memorizes a search condition at the time of searching further in the invention according to claim 1 to 3, a case where it searches again -- a search condition -- inner -- the on-line search system according to any one of claims 1 to 3 which

can be again searched without changing some conditions and changing the remaining conditions.

[Claim 5]When searching again without changing some conditions among search conditions and changing the remaining conditions, when searching again in the invention according to claim 4, The on-line search system according to claim 5 which can be again searched by specifying and changing distance and a direction which are changed when changing a position or a range specified on a map or changing 1 on a map, or a range.

[Claim 6]In the invention according to claim 1 to 5, said system is further equipped with an advertisement information storing means which stores information, including an advertisement etc., The on-line search system according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein information, including an advertisement etc. which were related with the range of map information displayed when map information is displayed, is displayed simultaneously.

[Claim 7]In the invention according to claim 6, said system is further equipped with an advertisement information storing means which stores information, including an advertisement etc., Information, including an advertisement etc. which were related with the range of map information displayed when map information is displayed, is displayed simultaneously, and. When searching again by specifying and changing distance and a direction which are changed when changing a position or a range specified on a map or changing 1 on a map, or a range, The on-line search system according to claim 6, wherein information, including an advertisement etc. which were related with the range of map information displayed after change, is displayed.

[Claim 8][in the invention according to claim 6 or 7] [information including an advertisement etc. which are displayed,] An on-line search system given in Claim 6 or either of 7 being related with the range of map information displayed, and being information, including an advertisement etc. which are related with 1 or two or more conditions among search conditions which a user set up.

[Claim 9][in the invention according to claim 1 to 8] [information stored in a contents storing means of said server system] The on-line real estate information retrieval system according to any one of claims 1 to 8 which information which accompanies map information and map information, such as real estate information, is included, and is characterized by the ability to retrieve real estate information based on a search condition which a user set up.

[Claim 10][in the invention according to claim 9] [real estate information stored in a contents storing means of said server system] When leasehold property information and dealing object information are included and it searches by setting up conditions by a search condition setting means, The on-line real estate information retrieval system according to claim 9 which specifies expense of prescribed periods, such as around the moon, and is characterized by the ability to retrieve simultaneously information on leasehold property and a dealing article.

[Claim 11][in the invention according to claim 1 to 8] [information stored in a contents storing means of said server system] The online trade information retrieval system according to any one of claims 1 to 8 which information which accompanies map information and map information, such as individual dealing information and other transaction information, is included, and is characterized by the ability to retrieve real estate information based on a search condition which a user set up.

[Claim 12][in the invention according to claim 1 to 8] [information stored in a contents storing means of said server system] The on-line work information retrieval system according to any one of claims 1 to 8 which information which accompanies map information and map information, such as work information, is included, and is characterized by the ability to retrieve real estate information based on a search condition which a user set up.

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the system which enables search of the information related with map information based on the search condition which the position information and the user by coordinates etc. on a map set up.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art]When searching the object around a reference point conventionally based on map information, the method of searching an object from all the fields is developed about a field and three surrounding fields including a reference point or the field where a reference point is included, and a field which are called eight surrounding fields and which was appointed beforehand. In input forms other than a map (for example, for search), etc., the method of searching was developed by carrying out 1 or two or more condition setup out of various conditions.

[0003]

[Problem to be solved by the invention] However, in the search on a map, it is intuitive and simple operation, The range within the distance from the position information as which what can retrieve the information related with map information was specified, If it becomes possible on on-line to search by carrying out 1 or two or more condition setup among the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and the range by other condition setup, a user's demand can be filled further. If information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with map information, can be combined with a position, a search condition, etc. on a map and can be displayed simultaneously, it is convenient also for a user and the addresser of advertisement information. It is convenient, if a part of search condition can be made to be able to memorize in such a case, a part can be changed into it and it can search again.

[0004]In [for example] the patent No. 2840063 "information guiding means with a building shape map" as art in such a field, For each building or every other institution and various buildings, the classification and the tenant of a name, the coordinate string of shape, and a building, The data of the building shape map which has the information belonging to the building concerned including the classification is memorized, The building shape map which consists of shape of a building where said coordinate string was connected according to this display mode that determined and determined the display mode based on the information belonging to said building is displayed, Information guiding means with the building shape map guiding this information that retrieved and retrieved the information belonging to said building based on specification of

the information to retrieve are indicated. However, the art currently indicated here is the art in a car navigation device, and is not for registering contents into a server system through an information registrant terminal, setting up and changing a search condition, or making it memorize. It is not what has possible searching by carrying out 1 or two or more condition setup among the range within the distance from the specified position information, the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and the range by other condition setup.

[0005][as a method of searching by the coordinate information on a map] In the patent No. 2999454 "object search method and device", It has the database which recorded the name and coordinates of the object contained in a field at least for every field of the map divided into the polygon field, The range finder contrivance story between a reference point and a field which calculates the shortest distance of the coordinates of a reference point, and each field by being an object search method which searches some objects near a reference point, The field sorting stage which sorts a field in order with a short distance acquired by said range finder contrivance story between a reference point and a field, The calculating stage between reference point objects which calculates the distance of a reference point and the object in a field in each field put in order by said field sorting stage, The distance judging stage between reference point objects where the distance of each object obtained by said range finder contrivance story between reference point objects and a reference point judges whether it is short [compared with distance with the field near a reference point] to the next of the field where the object is contained, or long, . [exceeded / the number of the objects which the number of the objects accumulated by the object accumulation stage which accumulates the object judged that is near compared with distance with the field near a reference point after the field where each object is contained according to said distance judging stage between reference point objects, and said object accumulation stage should search] Or the object search method including [whether having finish searching the field which should be searched, and] the end condition judging stage to judge is indicated.

[0006]Or, [as the method of presentation of the advertisement information related with map information] For example, in the patent No. 2756483 "feeding method of advertisement information, and registration method for the same", An advertisement request person is received in the feeding method of the advertisement information which supplies advertisement information with computer systems, While urging the input of advertisement information, a map is displayed based on the map information memorized beforehand, [the coordinates of the advertised object thing by which tab control specification was carried out to the stage of urging the tab control specification of an advertised object thing on the map concerned, on said map] An advertising recipient is received while it has a stage which is related with the inputted advertisement information and is memorized in detail, While displaying the map based on said map information, the iconographic-image-ized advertised object thing concerned is displayed on the point equivalent to the coordinates of the advertised object thing which is a point on the map concerned and was memorized, The feeding method of advertisement information provided with the stage to which selection of the advertised object thing for which it asks is urged, the stage which reads the advertisement information related with the selected advertised object thing, and the stage which outputs the read advertisement information to said

advertising recipient is indicated.

[0007]. [depending on however, the combination of such art or such art] It is [in / on the on-line systems on Web etc., and / the search on a map] intuitive and simple operation, The range within the distance from the position information as which what can retrieve the information related with map information was specified, It was impossible to have searched by carrying out 1 or two or more condition setup among the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and the range by other condition setup. [0008]Also when information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with map information, was combined with a position, a search condition, etc. on a map and was displayed simultaneously, the system

by which a display is automatically performed according to a setup, change, etc. of a search condition had not become. It is more desirable, if a part of search condition can be made to be able to memorize in such a

[Means for solving problem]

case, a part can be changed into it and it can search again.

[0009]In the invention according to claim 1, in order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, a computer, a Personal Digital Assistant, etc. on the network connected An information registrant terminal, The contents registration transmitting means which registers contents into a server system, The contents storing means provided in the server system for storing said contents, In a system provided with the contents display means which displays said contents on on-line, and the user terminal for perusing the contents displayed, [the information stored in the contents storing means of said server system] The information which accompanies map information and map information, such as real estate information, is included, The position information setting means which specifies the position on a map when a user peruses further using the map information displayed on a user terminal to the aforementioned on-line search system, The position information acquiring means which acquires the position information on the map specified by a user, The information stored in the information storing means according to a search condition setting means to set up a search condition in a user terminal and to transmit to said server system when said position information and a user retrieve information, and said position information and a search condition is retrieved and extracted, The information retrieval means which transmits to a user terminal is the system which it has, and, [said position information setting means] Have the function to specify two or more positions on a map by the input means of a mouse etc., and, [said position information acquiring means] Have a function which acquires the range from said two or more positions based on a condition setup, and, [said search condition setting means] A means to specify what kind of range is set up as conditions based on said two or more positions is included, The range within the distance from the specified position information, the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, It is characterized by being an on-line search system which can be searched by carrying out 1 or two or more condition setup among the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and the range by other condition setup.

[0010]In the invention according to claim 2, in order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, in the system according to claim 1, [said position information setting means] The position which contains the predetermined range on a map by the input means of a mouse etc. is specified, and said position

information acquiring means is characterized by being the on-line search system according to claim 1 which searches by acquiring the information on the specified range.

[0011]In the invention according to claim 3, in order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, in the invention according to claim 1 or 2, [said search condition setting means] [by carrying out a condition setup by a method including inputting or choosing landmarks, such as a station, a bus stop, and a building, and administrative district specified by a user, an address and a business district a school district, and other conditions] It is characterized by being an on-line search system of a description at Claim 1 or either of 2 which can be searched.

[0012]In [in order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT in the invention according to claim 4] the invention according to claim 1 to 3, Said system is equipped with the search condition memory measure which memorizes the search condition at the time of searching further, the case where it searches again -- a search condition -- inner -- it is characterized by being the on-line search system according to any one of claims 1 to 3 which can be again searched without changing some conditions and changing the remaining conditions.

[0013]In [in order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT in the invention according to claim 5] the invention according to claim 4, When searching again without changing some conditions among search conditions and changing the remaining conditions, when searching again, It is characterized by being the on-line search system according to claim 4 which can be searched again by specifying and changing the distance and the direction which are changed when changing the position or range specified on a map or changing the position or range on a map.

[0014]In [in order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT in the invention according to claim 6] the invention according to claim 1 to 5, Said system is further equipped with the advertisement information storing means which stores information, including an advertisement etc., Information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with the range of the map information displayed when map information is displayed, is characterized by being the on-line search system according to any one of claims 1 to 5 displayed simultaneously.

[0015]In [in order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT in the invention according to claim 7] the invention according to claim 6, Information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with the range of the map information displayed when said system is further equipped with the advertisement information storing means which stores information, including an advertisement etc., and map information is displayed, is displayed simultaneously, and. When searching again by specifying and changing the distance and the direction which are changed when changing the position or range specified on a map or changing the position or range on a map, It is characterized by being an on-line search system of a description at either of Claim 6 as which information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with the range of the map information displayed after change, is displayed.

[0016]In order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, [in the invention according to claim 8] [in the invention according to claim 6 or 7] [information, including the advertisement etc. which are displayed,] It is related with the range of the map information displayed, and is characterized by being an on-line search system of a description at Claim 6 or either of 7 which is information, including the advertisement etc. which are related

with 1 or two or more conditions among the search conditions which the user set up.

[0017]In order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, [in the invention according to claim 9] [in the invention according to claim 1 to 8] [the information stored in the contents storing means of said server system] The information which accompanies map information and map information, such as real estate information, is included, and it is characterized by being the on-line real estate information retrieval system according to any one of claims 1 to 8 with which real estate information can be retrieved based on the search condition which the user set up.

[0018]In order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, [in the invention according to claim 10] [in the invention according to claim 9] [the real estate information stored in the contents storing means of said server system] When leasehold property information and dealing object information are included and it searches by setting up conditions by a search condition setting means, The expense of prescribed periods, such as around the moon, is specified and it is characterized by being the on-line real estate information retrieval system according to claim 9 which can be searched simultaneously about the information on leasehold property and a dealing article.

[0019]In order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, [in the invention according to claim 11] [in the invention according to claim 1 to 8] [the information stored in the contents storing means of said server system] The information which accompanies map information and map information, such as individual dealing information and other transaction information, is included, and it is characterized by being the online trade information retrieval system according to any one of claims 1 to 8 with which real estate information can be retrieved based on the search condition which the user set up.

[0020]In order to solve above-mentioned SUBJECT, [in the invention according to claim 12] [in the invention according to claim 1 to 8] [the information stored in the contents storing means of said server system] The information which accompanies map information and map information, such as work information, is included, and it is characterized by being the on-line work information retrieval system according to any one of claims 1 to 8 with which real estate information can be retrieved based on the search condition which the user set up.

[0021]In this invention, if a real estate search engine site is raised to an example by having taken above various composition, for example, the most is an area along the railroad line and a method of referring to the conditions of an address conventionally, and the problem which was not able to search the valley of an area along the railroad line or a location can be solved. It does not necessarily persist in a station so much, and those who attend their office using a car, a motorbike, a bicycle, etc. can search in a company, the distance from a school, etc. According to this invention, at the home in which a child is present, the problems when not wanting to move out outside a school district etc. also become solvable.

[0022]In this invention, when searching the dealing candidate in individual dealing etc. by having taken above various composition, for example, information can be retrieved, solving conventionally the problem etc. of the delivery which poses a problem in an auction site etc. For example, when there was information of "the person hope of adjacent prefectures and the prefecture", etc. at an exhibitor's hope, even if the goods of hope were found with much trouble, it may have refrained from buying it with the Reason a partner is far. In this invention, if ranges, such as an area of dealing of individual dealing, are specified beforehand

and the range has demand and supply, individual dealing is advanced more smoothly and a trouble etc. can be decreased.

[0023]In this invention, by having taken above various composition, also when searching partners, such as communication (mail, a message board, and a chat), it is convenient. [for example by the case where he would like to talk with those who live / the case where he would like to make a mail friend, and / near themselves to carry out a chat, and specifying the place using the map to carry out the people and the talk which live in their country] The partner of the limited range can be searched and communication can be taken.

[0024]In this invention, by having taken above various composition, when searching those who search work places, such as work and part-time job, or are looking for work, it is convenient. A workshop can be found based on various conditions, without being caught by the station -- that he can walk from a house, and its office can be attended by the bicycle or motorbike -- and an area along the railroad line. When [in addition,] searching, for example on condition of the direction by a direction where it sets to divine (feng shui) and luck with money, work fate, and opposite-sex fate look up from a certain point (feng shui etc. are used), It can apply now to various fields -- when opening the thing which should just move to which direction in the case of a move, or an office, it can be searched whether which direction is better.

[0025]

[Mode for carrying out the invention]Hereafter, a fundamental embodiment of this invention is described with reference to Drawings. <u>Drawing 1</u> is a system structure figure showing fundamental composition of a system concerning this invention.

[0026]An on-line search system of this invention is provided with an information registrant terminal on a network where a computer, a Personal Digital Assistant, etc. are connected.

[0027]Here, various kinds of computer terminals including a Personal Digital Assistant in which a terminal, i.e., an information registrant terminal, and a user terminal for connecting with a network contained wireless-communications terminals, such as a cellular phone and PHS, and these functions are contained. They may be what is called information home appliances, such as Internet TV, etc., for example, furthermore -- a network where these are connected -- a cable, radio, and any communication line -- although -- it is contained.

[0028]In a system which has a Web server, an application server, a database server, etc., a system of this invention is usually realized on a network where a computer, a Personal Digital Assistant, etc. are connected. However, although an example installed in a system with these same server systems was shown in drawing 1 as fundamental system structure here, Since these places can be pinpointed by URL etc. and can be specified even if it exists in a place where an application server is separate or a database server exists in a separate place, Also in such system structure, a system of this invention is realizable.

[0029]The on-line search system of this invention is provided with the contents registration transmitting means which registers contents into a server system. By a contents registration transmitting means, drawing 2 shows an example of a screen for an information registrant to perform contents information for registration, edit, etc. An information registrant may enable it to register contents directly here. Or contents are received from an information registrant and the administrator of the system of this invention may be made to perform

input and registration.

[0030]Registration of contents is inputted into form, for example on the management screen on a Web site. Next, after inputting all of contents and other information, the information inputted by clicking "registration" button etc. is transmitted to the system of this invention, and it is stored in said contents storing means. [0031]If an example of a method which registers the contents information inputted here is given, the method of transmitting an E-mail via browser software by the form provided in the web page on on-line and the method of transmitting through an E-mail by electronic mail software will be raised. The method of these transmitting using all terminals, such as wireless-radios machines, such as a cellular phone and PHS, and other Personal Digital Assistants, is included.

[0032]Next, the work of a direct entry etc. is done from on a Web site which the internet service provider etc. are carrying out in order to enable it to make a Web site also from the user who does not have detailed knowledge, for example simply, and the method of uploading and registering a file is raised. Such a method is realized by having a program which can perform file operations, such as CGI. By using these means, it becomes simply possible [anyone] to make registration and correction of information. These processings are realized by the following application programs, for example. It realizes by using a CGI (CommonGateway Interface) program, a JAVA (registered trademark) program, etc. which use Perl, the C language, etc. as an easy program etc. However, when becoming a scale with the number of users, big access frequency, capacity of a database, etc., it is desirable to build the this compatible system. [0033]The server software which generates the contents of a html file is also realized nowadays. If the contents of reference of the database which used SQL for the file of HTML form which such software is beforehand provided with the reference function to a database server, and added extension uniquely are embedded, When a server returns the page, the contents of the HTML file are transposed to the contents of the result of having made a reference. Since the appearance of the page displayed as the contents of reference of a database can be described to one file, development of service [case / where it is based on a CGI program | becomes easy. The script environment where it operates on a server can be used. ASP (Active Server Page) of Microsoft Corp. is a platform for performing Active X control (a Java (registered trademark) applet is included) with a script (VBScript, JScript, etc. describe) by the server side. [0034]It is a general embodiment to have an authentication means for logging in from a client terminal, and the system of this invention has it in order to limit or attest those whom contents register. [desirable] if this enters ID and the password which were published by the administrator of the system and attestation is carried out -- a Web site -- it advances to the next screen. In this case, the HTML file etc. which are displayed on a Web site are usually stored in the Web server by the side of a system, and it is set up so that it may be displayed via a browser to meet the demand from the accessed terminal. Those who access each ID and password input and transmit their information, and register personal information, corporate information, etc., and many forms of having you publish with the E-mail of the reply, etc. are taken. In this case, personal information and corporate information (attestation information) are stored in an attestation server, access after next time and usually judge the propriety of that attestation passage with reference to the attestation information stored when ID, a password, etc. were entered and transmitted. [0035]Next, if it passes through the aforementioned attestation screen, the information registrant who

accessed will go to the screen for administrators, and will perform registration as an information registrant. It is preferred to set up from this screen, so that an information registrant's initial registration can be performed. Henceforth, the input and edit of information can be performed now from an administrator screen or an informant screen.

[0036]The on-line search system of this invention is provided with the contents storing means provided in the server system for storing said contents. Here, all forms, such as text of a text etc., image data, 3D image data, a video data, voice data or such combination, are included in the form of the information registered. [0037]The following contents information is included in the information stored in the contents storing means of said server system. In the first place, map information is stored beforehand, and, as for these, it is desirable to store the thing of various scales, etc. such map information -- a building (a common house, an office building, and an apartment.) It is for displaying map information of institution, bridge (tower, park, amusement-park, playground, etc.), road, and others various kinds, such as a fire department, a department store, a hospital, and a station, and also the data of a road map, the data of a housing map, etc. may be memorized.

[0038]The data of map information is related with the coordinate information which consists of the X-axis on information, including longitude, latitude, etc., and two dimensions, and a coordinate value of Y-axis plurality, and is memorized and stored. The map information from which a scale etc. differ so that the scale etc. of the displayed map may be changed, Or it is related by the aforementioned coordinate information etc., and two or more layers, such as a map showing the information on a road map, a housing map, a store, etc., change, and they can be set up so that it can display, or pile up and display.

[0039]Next, information which accompanies map information, such as real estate information, is included in information stored in a contents storing means of said server system. These information can register information (contents), or it changes and an information registrant can make it possible to delete it. [0040]For example, if it says in an example of a real estate search engine site, information, including an address about real estate, an administrative district, a nearby station, a bus stop and a route name, room arrangement of real estate, a handling real estate company, the contact and a house rent, administrative expenses, etc., information on the actual age, and other various information will be raised. A variety of information etc. which show coordinates on longitude and latitude in which the real estate carries out the whereabouts, or a map are raised.

[0041]For example, when searching a dealing candidate in individual dealing etc., range information, including an exhibitor's information of choice, information on goods etc. which are dealt in, an area of dealing, etc., etc. can be stored, for example. Or when searching partners, such as communication (mail, a message board, and a chat), information about themselves or a partner, place information related with a map, etc. can be stored. Or when searching those who search work places, such as work and part-time job, or are looking for work, information on a nearby station or an area along the railroad line and other various information can be stored with information, including work, an occupational description, remuneration, etc. In addition, it is applicable to various fields using information to store.

[0042]The on-line search system of this invention is provided with the contents display means which displays said contents on on-line. The on-line search system of this invention is provided with the user

terminal for perusing the contents displayed.

[0043]Usually, [in such a case] [the information etc. which were stored in said database] The html file etc. which described the data extracted from the information etc. which made link to the html file etc. which are displayed on the Web site stored in the Web server etc., or were stored in said database by search etc. are generated, It is made to be displayed on the screen of the customer terminal to access. The file displayed can also use the thing of a XHTML file, a XML file or C-HTML file for personal digital assistants, and others besides a html file.

[0044]It is for an information display means displaying for example, a html file, a XML file, etc. If the information displayed is graphics files, such as a gif file, the link to said graphics file will be described in the html file of a Web site. When a customer accesses this, a user's computer terminal carries out the transmitting demand of the file (html file) of the web page, and carries out the transmitting demand also of said graphics file by which description of the link was carried out to the file simultaneously. If it is a graphics file by receiving these files, for example, the web page which the user accessed will be displayed on a user's computer terminal screen via browser software, and said graphics file is displayed on a part of the page. For example, the file concerned transmitted to some frames of the frame divided into plurality like the frame which divides one screen and displays two or more html files may be displayed.

[0045]The aforementioned on-line search system is provided with a position information setting means which specifies a position on a map when a user peruses further using map information displayed on a user terminal. A position information setting means The output range of a building shape map (the area), an area of a building on a map, Selection of information guidance about a building, search of circumference information, etc. and directions are inputted, and pointing devices, such as a touch panel and a joystick which were combined with a display screen, and a mouse, and a remote control are used.

[0046]Next, said position information setting means explains a deciding method of a concrete selection point in case a user specifies a position on a map. A method of displaying a map with which a range to choose was contained as a procedure of a method of specifying position information, or a method of specifying a range to choose from inside of a displayed map is raised. It is possible for the method of presentation of a map and a deciding method of a selection range to prepare several kinds, and to specify various position information depending on usage.

[0047]As a preceding paragraph story which specifies introduction and position information, in order to specify position information, two methods are explained below as an example of a method on which a map of an applicable area is displayed.

[0048](The selection method 1: How to expand a map and to specify a selection position) When choosing roughly, after specifying a prefecture, a city, a division, etc. and displaying a wide range map, a map is expanded and a selection point of hope is determined. For example, it inputs into form which is shown in drawing 2 as a function which makes display selection in a case of displaying a map of all prefectures roughly first. Next, it is desirable for a map of an area made into the purpose to change using a map with which scales etc. differ, and to make it displayed, and drawing 3 shows this screen image. For example, a map of displayed all prefectures is expanded, a map can be expanded further and a selection point of hope can be displayed to specify still more finely.

[0049](The selection method 2: How to specify the name of a place and display a map direct) When a name of a town to choose beforehand is known, name of a place specification can be carried out, and a map can be displayed. When an address is inputted from input form, it is the method of a map near [the] an address being direct and being displayed. Or in specifying the name of a place, it specifies an address directly (drawing 4).

[0050]Next, the aforementioned position information setting means explains below a step which specifies position information.

[0051]When specifying introduction and one point with a mouse etc., it is possible to consider it as a range in a case of having a radius specified and, for example, searching inside of a circle centering on the point. In this case, in map information displayed on a user terminal, position information on one point is specified with cursor etc. which are displayed as a mouse etc. on a screen according to it. A figure showing a screen image in this case is <u>drawing 5</u>. In <u>drawing 5</u>, a point used as the central point of a circle is the position information as which it was specified in the case of this example.

[0052]Next, as latitude and longitude information, or information that shows the coordinates on the X-axis Y-axis on two dimensions, information is acquired by said position information acquiring means, and the position information on the map specified by the user here is transmitted to the system side of this invention.

[0053][a search condition setting means to set up a search condition in a user terminal and to transmit to said server system when said position information and a user retrieve information] It can include as one of the search conditions so that <u>drawing 5</u> may see in this example, and it may specify inside a garden [by the radius from the specified position information] as a range. In addition, the range within the distance from the position information as which said search condition setting means was specified, It can be set up to search by carrying out 1 or two or more condition setup among the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and the range by other condition setup.

[0054] Further, the on-line search system of this invention is provided with a search condition setting means to set up a search condition in a user terminal and to transmit to said server system, when said position information and a user retrieve information. If the search using a map is used, search like the following example will be attained.

(Example)

<. [the distance from a certain point] On a basis. [point / search > and / existing] [less than OOkm] .
[point / search and / existing] [less than a bicycle OO part] search and a certain point to less than a vehicle OO part -- search and a certain point to a train -- less than OO part -- a search **** point to taxi OO meter -- a search station to less than a transportation-expenses OO circle -- search -- < -- the range including a certain point is searched from the business district where search and a certain point are included from the school district where search > and a certain point are included [0055]When specifying the position information on one point as mentioned above, a near bicycle O part within the circle, the inside of OO meter of a taxi, etc. can also be specified instead of distance with an option element. [various information which is related with map information in these cases, and is stored in an information storing means] It is required to

associate the information on the range within the distance from the specified position information, the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and others, and to be beforehand stored before search. These are realizable with a related database etc. In such a case, it is necessary to have said search condition setting means so that it may be possible as a search condition to carry out 1 or two or more condition setup among these various setting elements.

[0056]Next, when searching by specifying two or more position information like the invention according to claim 1, following embodiments are raised to the specification method of position information.

(How to specify two points with a mouse etc.) There is two position information which is applicable like [in the case where it is aimed at the inside of a circle by making the point into a diameter like <u>drawing 6</u> when it specifies by two points, and the case of being aimed at the overlapping portion of two circles centering on opposite each point like <u>drawing 7</u>]. In the case of this example, the aforementioned search condition setting means takes methods, such as including as one of the search conditions, so that it may specify as a range inside a garden [by the radius from two or more position information of each specified in this example]. Other steps are the same as that of the case where the position information on one point is specified.

(Search method which specifies three points with a mouse) It can be aimed at the inside of the triangle which connected three points when it specifies by the position information on three points. The screen image figure showing this example is <u>drawing 8</u>. The following forms are raised as an embodiment in the case of specifying two or more position information on a map. For example, the range of the predetermined position of the house neighborhood is specified, and the range of the position of the office neighborhood, the range of the transfer station neighborhood on the way of commutation, etc. are specified simultaneously, and it becomes possible to take the method of retrieving the information on these ranges simultaneously etc. [0057]Next, like the invention according to claim 2, said position information setting means specifies the position which contains the predetermined range on a map by the input means of a mouse etc., and said position information acquiring means can be searched by acquiring the information on the specified range. In this case, for example, the following method can be taken.

(Search method which specifies the range with a mouse etc.) The range can be chosen by choosing by a drug and can take methods, like the selected range is the target of search. The screen image figure showing this example is drawing 9.

[0058]Next, like the invention according to claim 3, [said search condition setting means] It is also possible to take the embodiment which searches by carrying out a condition setup by a method including inputting or choosing landmarks, such as a station, a bus stop, and a building, and administrative district specified by a user, an address and a business district, a school district, and other conditions. In this case, range specification of the following position information is performed, for example as an example.

(Other range selection methods 1) A specific school district and a specific area can be chosen by clicking a landmark. In this example, like <u>drawing 10</u>, it clicks on the school in a map, or the icon of a company, and the range is chosen. As an optional feature, it can also specify a transportation-expenses OO circle within the circle etc. from a station. [various information which is related with map information in these cases, and

is stored in an information storing means] It is required to associate the information on the range within the distance from the specified position information, the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and others, and to be beforehand stored before search. These are realizable with a related database etc. It is (the other range selection methods 2, for example, the method of searching the article along arbitrary roads, etc.), and is a case where he would like to specifically search the article of an along as Aoyama etc. As a selection method, it carries out by the method of clicking the road on a map, the method of choosing from a list, etc.

[0059]The aforementioned on-line search system is provided with the position information acquiring means which acquires the position information on the map specified by a user further. The coordinate information or latitude information on the map in every point, and the predetermined, selected coordinate information or longitude latitude information on the range is included in the position information acquired. [0060]In the map information displayed on a user's terminal screen, a position information acquiring means acquires the position information which the user specified with cursor etc., or those ranges as coordinate information etc. The acquired information is transmitted to the system side of this invention. In this case, were set up by a search condition setting means to set up a search condition in a user terminal and to transmit to said server system with position information as above-mentioned when a user retrieves information. The range within the distance from the specified position information, the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and the information about other condition setup are simultaneously transmitted to the system side of this invention.

[0061]The aforementioned on-line search system retrieved and extracted further the information stored in the information storing means according to said position information and a search condition, and is provided with the information retrieval means which transmits to a user terminal. The system by which it outputs by retrieving the information suitable for conditions, and a user can peruse information via the browser software of a terminal, etc. from the information about a condition setup for the aforementioned position information and search is realized by the program which has the following functions.

[0062]The application program etc. which use programs etc. which use Perl, the C language, etc., such as a CGI (CommonGateway Interface) program and JAVA (registered trademark), as an easy program are realized. However, when becoming a scale with the number of users, big access frequency, capacity of a database, etc., it is desirable to build the this compatible system. For example, the server software which generates the contents of the HTML file is also realized. If the contents of reference of the database which used SQL for the file of HTML form which such software is beforehand provided with the reference function to a database server, and added extension uniquely are embedded, When a server returns the page, the contents of the HTML file are transposed to the contents of the result of having made a reference. [0063]A flow using these programs of processing of a system of this invention is described in detail. [an information condition selection step which chooses conditions of information which a user needs by the aforementioned search condition setting means] For example, when searching real estate when it aims at a move with a family, or retrieving information on the surrounding area, it can set up so that information on a

school, a supermarket, a station, etc. can be retrieved. Or when looking for a room of living alone and retrieving information on the surrounding area, a search condition can be set up by a convenience store, a laundromat, a ramen restaurant, a pachinko parlor, a game center, etc. specifying a type of industry etc., for example, and inputting or choosing. It is possible to set up conditions like "less than radius Om", a "nearby station OO station", and "a station to less than an on foot O part" from specified position information as mentioned above. If it says in an example of real estate, it is also possible to set up conditions for which it wishes, such as room arrangement of a room, like drawing 11.

[0064]When setting up these conditions, a form which sets up two or more conditions at once on an input form screen on one Web, etc. may be sufficient. Or in passing through two or more steps which set up conditions. While a user transmits setting information on a search condition inputted and chosen to the server system side, and a program acquires, and making it memorize temporarily and going to the next screen, a form which narrows down a search condition and progresses to the next processing can also be taken. Thus, selection from an item of information to need can be performed through two or more stages. [0065]The information condition selection step which chooses the conditions of the information which a user needs by the aforementioned search condition setting means can set up an output form in case said search results are outputted further etc. According to this, a user is a screen of a Web site, etc. and can choose the output method and form of information (a display style and a layout). For example, it is possible to set up the method distributed with E-mails, such as to be displayed on Web in HTML form etc., text format, and HTML form, or the method of using these together.

[0066]Next, if a user pushes a transmitting button and transmits these selections and set-up information to the server side, If it says by the system structure of <u>drawing 1</u>, the program of an application server will start, and the information which the user set up retrieves the information corresponding to a search condition with reference to a database server, and generates the file of the appointed form of HTML form etc. When it combines and a user sets up a display layout etc., also with reference to these information, a file is generated in the appointed form. And it is transmitted to a user's terminal and displayed on a terminal screen. The figure showing the fundamental flow of this processing is <u>drawing 12</u>. Thus, the system of this invention is realized.

[0067][as other embodiments of this invention] [like the invention according to claim 4] Said system is equipped with the search condition memory measure which memorizes the search condition at the time of searching further in the invention according to claim 1 to 3, The on-line search system which can be again searched without changing some conditions among search conditions and changing the remaining conditions, in searching again is raised. The search condition performed immediately before is made to memorize temporarily, the part of the set-up conditions is changed and methods in this case involve the method of searching again. When making a condition setup at the time of searching memorize by Cookie etc. as another method and searching again next time (later etc.), the method of changing the part of the conditions based on this condition, and searching again is raised. For example, when searching a real estate article and it is not pleasing somehow in article by re-search on the basis of position information although the relevance article of choice of a place is good, position information can be changed and it can be searched whether the article of the conditions is around an applicable article. When setting up the

conditions of the range of a position, it is possible to change, specify and search the radius (distance) from predetermined position information etc.

[0068][as other embodiments of this invention] [like the invention according to claim 5] When searching again without changing some conditions among search conditions and changing the remaining conditions, when searching again in the invention according to claim 4, The on-line search system according to claim 4 which can be searched again is raised by specifying and changing the distance and the direction which are changed when changing the position or range specified on a map or changing the position or range on a map. After the map of the selection position of choice is displayed, movement of a position can be performed by the method of dragging a map to move further from the position as the move method from the specified position information, for example. As another method, if input execution of distance and the direction is carried out, the method of moving to the position automatically can also be taken. Like <u>drawing 13</u>, after moving, it is also possible to always display on a map the icon which plays a navigation role so that the position chosen as the beginning may not be missed.

[0069][as other embodiments of this invention] [like the invention according to claim 6] In the invention according to claim 1 to 5, said system is further equipped with the advertisement information storing means which stores information, including an advertisement etc., The on-line search system according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with the range of the map information displayed when map information is displayed, is displayed simultaneously is raised. [0070][as other embodiments of this invention] [like the invention according to claim 7] In the invention according to claim 6, said system is further equipped with the advertisement information storing means which stores information, including an advertisement etc., Information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with the range of the map information displayed when map information is displayed, is displayed simultaneously, and. When searching again by specifying and changing the distance and the direction which are changed when changing the position or range specified on a map or changing the position or range on a map, The on-line search system of a description is raised to either of Claim 6, wherein information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with the range of the map information displayed after change, is displayed. In the case of this embodiment, when map information is displayed on a user's terminal, in the same window or another window of a screen, etc., it is set up so that information, including an advertisement etc., may be displayed. Information, including the advertisement etc. which are displayed, is stored in the advertisement information storing means, and these information is the text of picture information, such as banner advertising, a text, etc., a voice information, an animation and animation information, and other information. Information, including these advertisements, is related with the range of the map information displayed when map information is displayed. Correlation of map information and information, including an advertisement etc., is realizable with a related database and the other techniques. When a user chose and specifies the area, an administrative district, etc. in map information, it becomes possible to display the advertisement etc. which were related with them.

[0071]Like the invention according to claim 8, in the invention according to claim 6 or 7, information, including an advertisement etc. which are displayed, is related with the range of map information displayed, and it can be considered as information, including an advertisement etc. which are related with 1 or two or

more conditions among search conditions which a user set up. For example, when a user chose and specifies the area, an administrative district, etc. in map information, and also when conditions of for example, a bank, a convenience store gas station, etc. are chosen by a search condition, it becomes possible to display an advertisement etc. which were related with them.

[0072]As an embodiment of this invention, information which accompanies map information, such as real estate information, can also be used as an on-line real estate information retrieval system with which real estate information can be retrieved based on a search condition. Or information which accompanies map information, such as individual dealing information and other transaction information, can also be used as an online trade information retrieval system with which real estate information can be retrieved based on a search condition. Or information which accompanies map information, such as work information, can also be used as an on-line work information retrieval system with which real estate information can be retrieved based on a search condition. In addition, it is applicable to various fields.

[0073]In considering it as an on-line real estate search system, [like the invention according to claim 10] [real estate information stored in a contents storing means of said server system] When leasehold property information and dealing object information are included and it searches by setting up conditions by a search condition setting means, It can be considered as an on-line real estate information retrieval system which specifies expense of prescribed periods, such as around the moon, and is characterized by the ability to retrieve simultaneously information on leasehold property and a dealing article. In this case, it searches possible, comparing "a case where it borrows" based on a search condition, "when you buy it." Usually, if real estate is then taken for an example, a problem which cannot perform simultaneously search of a "dealing article" and "leasehold property" will be solved. When considering it as structure which can peruse an article which specifies width of a house rent, etc. and corresponds to it in search, it assumes that a loan is paid in the amount of money in a house rent specified there every month, and the monthly amount of payment introduces a dealing article which is applied in a designated range. It attaches to information on a dealing article of said real estate information which carries out contents storing, will pay for 30 years, and will pay for 35 years, model amount of payment, such as settlement-by-bonuses combined use, is stored, and a method whose search is enabled is raised. It is also possible to take a method by which a user pays for a server system of this invention, methods, such as years, a payment method, interest rates, are specified as it based on the total amount of payment, and monthly amount of payment etc. are calculated automatically. [0074]As mentioned above, although explained in detail, it cannot be overemphasized that various change is possible for this invention within the limits of the invention which is not limited to the form of the aforementioned embodiment and was indicated to Claims. A means as used herein does not necessarily mean a physical means, and also when the function of each means is realized by software, it contains. The function of one means or a step may be realized by two or more physical means, and the function of two or more means or a step may be realized by one physical means.

[0075]

[Effect of the Invention]As explained to details above, according to this invention, it is [in / on the on-line systems on Web etc. and / the search on a map] intuitive and simple operation, The range within the distance from the position information which the information related with map information was retrieved, and

was specified, It becomes possible to search by carrying out 1 or two or more condition setup among the range which can move by a predetermined method into predetermined time, the range which can move by a predetermined method into a predetermined fee, and the range by other condition setup. Also when combining with a position, a search condition, etc. on a map information, including the advertisement etc. which were related with map information, and displaying it simultaneously, it becomes possible to make it display automatically according to a setup, change, etc. of a search condition. It becomes possible to make a part of search condition memorize in such a case, to change a part into it, and to search again.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1]It is a system structure figure showing the fundamental composition of the system concerning this invention.

[Drawing 2]By a contents registration transmitting means, a figure shows an example of a screen for an information registrant to perform contents information for registration, edit, etc.

[Drawing 3]It is a screen image figure in the case of the map of the area made into the purpose changing using the map with which scales etc. differ, and making it displayed.

[Drawing 4]When an address is inputted from input form, it is a screen image figure in the case of specifying conditions by the method of the map near [the] an address being direct and being displayed.

[Drawing 5] In the map information displayed on a user terminal, it is a figure showing the screen image in the case of specifying the position information on one point with the cursor etc. which are displayed as a mouse etc. on a screen according to it.

[Drawing 6]When carrying out position information specification by two points, it is a screen image figure in the case of being aimed at the inside of a circle by making the point into a diameter.

[Drawing 7]When carrying out position information specification by two points, it is a screen image figure in the case of being aimed at the overlapping portion of two circles centering on opposite each point.

[Drawing 8]When [of three points] carrying out position information specification, it is a screen image figure showing the example for the inside of the triangle which connected three points.

[Drawing 9] It is a screen image figure showing an example in case it chooses by choosing the range of position information by a drug and the selected range is the target of search.

[Drawing 10] It is a screen image figure showing the example which chooses the range of position information by clicking a specific school district and a specific landmark.

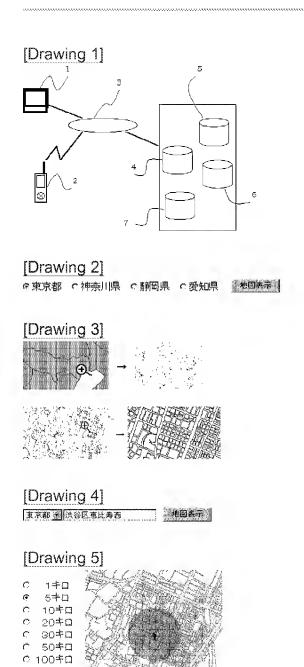
[Drawing 11]In the example of real estate, it is a screen image figure of a search condition setup in the case of setting up conditions for which it wishes, such as room arrangement of the room.

[Drawing 12]It is a figure showing the flow of fundamental processing of this invention.

[Drawing 13] After moving the position on a map, it is a screen image figure in the case of always displaying on a map the icon which plays a navigation role so that the position chosen as the beginning may not be missed.

[Explanations of letters or numerals]

- 1 Terminal
- 2 Personal digital assistant
- 3 Internet network
- 4 Web server
- 5 Information storing means (database server)
- 6 Application server
- 7 Mail server



[Drawing 6]



[Drawing 7]



[Drawing 8]



[Drawing 9]



[Drawing 10]

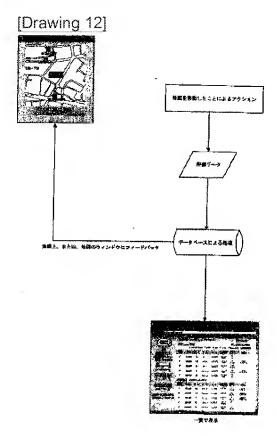


[Drawing 11]



[Drawing 13]





[Translation done.]